

March 25, 1983

LB 400, 440

PRESIDENT: Senator Higgins. Let's have order in the Chamber, please. (Gavel.) Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. President, this bill is not really my bill so those senators who are against nursing homes do not have to vote no. This bill is intended to help nursing homes such as Senator Lowell Johnson owns and that his friends support. This bill was brought to the Public Health and Welfare Committee and because our committee already had too many bills to introduce I took it for the Department of Health. What it does basically is allow for the licensure of any nursing home in more than one category as long as it meets all of the applicable requirements for each category. Only the fees for the highest licensure category would be paid. Separate licenses can be issued or a single license with all categories noted on it can be issued upon request of the applicant. This licensure procedure would cover all buildings used by the nursing home if under one management but upon request by the applicant, separate licenses can be issued for each building. This bill is designed to help the nursing homes and to help the Health Department save a lot of paperwork and time. Like I say, it isn't Marge Higgins' bill per se. Senator Lowell Johnson can vote for it. Senator Elroy Hefner can vote for it. Howard Peterson can vote for it, all of those boys that don't like to see nursing home regulations can vote for it and know they are helping their friends and whether they do or not, I could care less. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Higgins. Is there further discussion? Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I would just like to say to Senator Higgins that I plan on voting for this bill. I think it is a good bill and I hope I get back in the good graces of Senator Higgins.

PRESIDENT: Is there further discussion? The motion is to advance the bill. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? The Clerk will record the vote.

CLERK: 29 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to advance the bill.

PRESIDENT: The motion carried. The bill is advanced.  
LB 440.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 440 was introduced by Senator